

Exhibit 5

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

- BENJAMIN WILSON -

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

----- X
ULKU ROWE,

Plaintiff,

Case No.
19 Civ. 08655(LGS)(GWG)

v.

GOOGLE LLC,

Defendant.

----- X

DATE: December 2, 2020

TIME: 10:21 a.m.

VIDEOTAPED VIDEOCONFERENCE DEPOSITION

OF BENJAMIN WILSON, held via Zoom, pursuant to
Notice, before Hope Menaker, a Shorthand Reporter
and Notary Public of the State of New York.

- BENJAMIN WILSON -

A P P E A R A N C E S

OTTEN & GOLDEN LLP

Attorneys for Plaintiff

685 Third Avenue

New York, New York 10017

BY: CARA E. GREENE, ESQ. (Via Zoom)
SHIRA Z. GELFAND, ESQ. (Via Zoom)
MAYA JUMPER, ESQ. (Via Zoom)
ceg@outtengolden.com
sgelfand@outtengolden.com

mjumper@outtengolden.com

PAUL HASTINGS LLP

Attorneys for Defendant

200 Park Avenue

MetLife Building

New York, New York 10166

BY: KENNETH W. GAGE, ESQ. (Via Zoom)
SARA B. TOMEZSKO, ESQ. (Via Zoom)
Kennethgage@paulhastings.com
Saratomezsko@paulhastings.com

ALSO PRESENT: (Via Zoom)

PETER COOPER, ESQ. - Google LLC

JOSE RIVERA - Videographer

1 - BENJAMIN WILSON -

2 conversation with him about that.

3 Q. Did anyone ever explain to you what
4 the difference was between those two roles?

5 MR. GAGE: Objection.

6 A. Yes. Darryl Willis tried to explain
7 the difference, but I was left with the impression
8 he was confused also.

9 Q. Do you recall what Mr. Willis told
10 you?

11 A. Since he and I were senior people
12 in the organization our thought was that we were
13 just going to say yes, sir, a little bit
14 overlapping, but our goal is go serve the customer
15 and so we should work together and find a way to
16 go serve the customers with each one of our
17 capabilities and do that to the best of our
18 ability. That was what we settled on, not a
19 specific set of role of who does what.

20 Q. Did you have any discussions with Mr.
21 Eryurek around the role of the global client
22 technical lead?

23 A. Well, um, yes.

24 Q. What discussions did you have with
25 Evren?

1 - BENJAMIN WILSON -

2 Q. And what was the context in which he
3 informed you of it?

4 A. There is a -- it was clear he was
5 getting ready to leave Google and he used the
6 words, "I'm trying to find landing zones first --
7 landing zone for everyone," and he was encouraging
8 me to contact this group to help me find a new
9 role.

10 Q. As far as you observed at Google, was
11 it common for directors to move within Google
12 Cloud?

13 MR. GAGE: Objection.

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. Did you alert Ms. Rowe to the program
16 as well?

17 A. Yes, I did.

18 Q. Why?

19 A. We had conversations that the role
20 that -- in Tariq's organization wasn't exactly
21 what we had anticipated and felt that other roles
22 in Google could be more interesting.

23 Q. Had Ms. Rowe ever expressed to you
24 anything about the manner in which Mr. Shaukat
25 treated her?

1 - BENJAMIN WILSON -

2 managers to help inside Cloud Systems. I went and
3 spoke to a few people and it turned out that the
4 answer was yes and so I took a chance there and
5 did some interviews.

6 Q. Did you ever see a job description
7 for the product management role that you
8 interviewed for?

9 A. Yes. Eventually, yes, I did.

10 Q. Okay, and do you recall what title
11 that role had?

12 A. I don't recall off the top of my head
13 what -- what the precise title was.

14 Q. What was your understanding of what
15 the product management role entails?

16 A. Coming up with a vision of where
17 the product is going to go, to find a kind of
18 three-year road map, and then going down to a
19 yearlong road map with quarterly deliverables that
20 drove an outcome that was positive for customers.

21 Q. Did you believe that your skill set
22 was transferable to that product management role?

23 A. Given I had run product management
24 organizations in my prior two companies, yes.

25 Q. Was there any skills that you were

1 - BENJAMIN WILSON -

2 using in the OCTO role or the client technical
3 lead role that were transferable to the PM role?

4 MR. GAGE: Objection.

5 A. Yes, identifying gaps in our -- our
6 product lines and features and functions that were
7 missing.

8 Q. Was there any aspect of the work that
9 you had been doing in OCTO or Mr. Shaukat's
10 organization that involved product management?

11 MR. GAGE: Objection.

12 A. Some. It was more being able to
13 identify gaps in features. We were working with
14 customers who were doing high-performance compute
15 and we had some gaps in features and so we would
16 identify those gaps and help our colleagues, you
17 know, figure out how to solve them.

18 Q. Did the product management role
19 involve collaboration?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Was that also true with respect to
22 the role that you had played up until that point
23 in time?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Was your technology experience up

1 - BENJAMIN WILSON -

2 until that point in time relevant to the product

3 management role that you moved into?

4 MR. GAGE: Objection.

5 A. Yes. Basically we were building what

6 I had built at GE and at P2 and we were building

7 that for Cloud, so there was a direct

8 applicability.

9 Q. Did the product management role

10 require that you identify AI-related design

11 development or deployment friction points from the

12 customer's perspective?

13 MR. GAGE: Objection.

14 A. Which role?

15 Q. The product management role.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Did the product management role

18 look to entail rallying teams to work through

19 deployment hurdles, product updates, new product

20 offerings, and solutions?

21 MR. GAGE: Objection.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Did the product management role

24 require you or entail working with customers and

25 other partners on joint initiatives?

1 - BENJAMIN WILSON -

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Did the product management role

4 entail corroborating across functional and product

5 area boundaries?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Did the product management role

8 require you to work with broader Google

9 engineering PMs and research teams?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Did the product management role

12 require you to be able to do deep dives with the

13 internal engineering team?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Did the product management role

16 involve working on cross-Google technical working

17 teams?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Did the product management role

20 involve getting hands-on with customer projects?

21 A. Generally, no.

22 Q. Did the product management role

23 involve defining and solving AI problems that

24 spanned code, infrastructure, strategy business,

25 and FUD?

1 - BENJAMIN WILSON -

2 A. I --

3 MR. GAGE: Objection.

4 A. I don't know what FUD is.

5 Q. Putting aside FUD then, did the
6 product management role involve defining and
7 solving AI problems across code, infrastructure,
8 strategy and business?

9 A. In --

10 MR. GAGE: Objection.

11 A. In some cases, yes.

12 Q. Did the product management role
13 involve any private whiteboarding sessions?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Did the product management role
16 involve any public evangelism?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Did the product management role
19 require experience in designing, scoping, and
20 delivering complex applications and services?

21 MR. GAGE: Objection.

22 A. No.

23 Q. Did the product management role
24 require experience with multiple software design
25 methodologies?

1 - BENJAMIN WILSON -

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Did the product management role
4 require an understanding of the challenges modern
5 enterprises faced with respect to scale, speed,
6 and user expectations?

7 MR. GAGE: Objection.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. When you moved into the product
10 management role, did your level change?

11 A. No.

12 Q. What is your current level?

13 A. I am still an L 9. My expectation is
14 if I move into the product management role
15 officially, I will be downgraded to an L 8.

16 Q. So at this point in time, are you
17 functioning in a product management position or
18 are you functioning in the technical client lead
19 position?

20 A. Product management.

21 Q. And how long have you been
22 functioning in the product management position?

23 A. Roughly six months.

24 I -- I do need to provide a
25 clarification to that. I started the role in

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) ss.
COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

I, HOPE LYNN MENAKER, a Notary Public within
and for the State of New York, do hereby certify:

That BENJAMIN WILSON, the witness whose
deposition is hereinbefore set forth, was duly
sworn by me and that such deposition is a true
record of the testimony given by the witness.

I further certify that I am not related to
any of the parties to this action by blood or
marriage, and that I am in no way interested in
the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand this 14th day of December, 2020.



HOPE LYNN MENAKER

Benjamin Wilson
12/02/2020

180

INDEX

WITNESS: BENJAMIN WILSON

EXAMINATION BY	PAGE
MS. GREENE	5

EXHIBITS FOR IDENTIFICATION

NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
Exhibit 117	GOOG-ROWE-00017319-321	18
Exhibit 118	GOOG-ROWE-00054166-67	79
Exhibit 119	GOOG-ROWE-00017437-38	115
Exhibit 120	GOOG-ROWE-P00000761	122
Exhibit 121	GOOG-ROWE-P00000762-763	124
Exhibit 122	GOOG-ROWE-00053848-51	128
Exhibit 123	GOOG-ROWE-00053787.R-89.R	131
Exhibit 124	GOOG-ROWE-00053869-63443	132
Exhibit 125	GOOG-ROWE-00053788.R-89.R	134
Exhibit 126	GOOG-ROWE-00063434-63443	137
Exhibit 127	GOOG-ROWE-00062265-62272	140
Exhibit 128	GOOG-ROWE-00053790.R-91.R	142